

Fredericksburg Arts Commission Meeting
Monday, August 18, 2008
City Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Debby Klein, Kevin Bartram, Rochelle Grey, Roy Jarnecke, Pat Thalman, Peter Scelfo, George Solley, Kim Schill, and Florence Ridderhof.
Absent: Kerry Devine and Kathleen Walsh.

Approval of Minutes

Roy Jarnecke called the meeting to order. The minutes of July 14, 2008 were reviewed and there were a couple of spelling errors noted. Rochelle Gray noted her name should have been listed as part of the website committee. Debbie Klein then made a motion to accept the amended minutes. Motion was seconded by George Solley and the motion unanimously passed.

Public Comment

Chairman Jarnecke recognized three members of the public that were in attendance and allowed them to introduce themselves.

Selection of Permanent Meeting Time

The Commission discussed a permanent day of the week and meeting time for its meetings. Rochelle Grey made a motion that the Commission hold meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm in the City Hall Conference Room. Motion was seconded by Debby Klein and the motion unanimously passed.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Bylaws

The Commission thoroughly reviewed a draft of their Bylaws as presented by Chairman Jarnecke. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that a sub-committee was needed in order to conduct further discussion, research, and revisions on several items including the following:

- Attendance policy (whether or not the Commission should have one)
- Duties of the Commission

The Commission agreed on the following revisions:

- Reports to City Council will be filed around February 15 of each year
- Addendum concerning an Executive Committee should be created and placed under "Duties"

- Time limit for members of the public of three minutes should be included in the bylaws

Kevin Bartram and Debbie Klein volunteered to serve on the sub-committee to revise the Bylaws.

George Solley discussed the City's "conflict of interest" policy with the Commission. It was also noted that six members of the Commission would need to be present for a quorum.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Mission Statement

Kevin Bartram distributed and discussed a draft of suggestions for a Mission Statement, including examples from other Arts Commissions. After a lengthy discussion, the Commission agreed that Mr. Bartram should take their comments and continue to revise the Statement.

Old Business

1. Performing Arts Venue

George Solley reported on the information he learned at a July 23rd meeting concerning a possible Performing Arts venue in the old hardware store. He provided some preliminary plans for the venue which would include a 420-seat style theatre. The Silver Companies would build the "shell" of the theatre and then ask that funding for everything needed in the theatre such as lighting and seats be raised by the community. The Commission discussed some of its concerns but Mr. Solley noted the plans are merely conceptual at this point.

2. Rappahannock Area Independent Film Festival

George Solley introduced Paul Lewis who discussed the Rappahannock Area Independent Film Festival which will be held September 18- 21st. Mr. Lewis then introduced the Festival's director of events Ryan Poe who spoke on the events of the festival. Mr. Lewis advised some of the money raised will go towards a Performing Arts Center and he will provide the Commission with a detailed program for the Festival at its next meeting.

3. Report from Calendar (Website) Committee

Pat Thalman advised that the Website Committee has met twice. She distributed information they gathered on creating a website as well as feedback and recommendations they received from a website designer who agreed to be a consultant at no cost. Funds for the Commission would be raised through membership opportunities that would be managed on the website. The consultant believed this structure would allow the website to pay for itself in the second year of its creation. Set up

of the website would cost \$5,000 and Ms. Thalman reported he would also create a logo and domain name at no charge if the Commission hired him to create and manage the site.

The Commission discussed the concept and then agreed it needed more time to review the consultant's recommendations prior to moving forward. They will discuss it at the next meeting and Ms. Thalman strongly encouraged members to contact her prior to the meeting with their questions and concerns so she could be prepared to address them.

New Business

Debby Klein reported that she spoke with Glenn Kinard of PNC Bank and he advised the bank is very interested in supporting the arts and could perhaps be a sponsor for the Arts Commission.

Adjournment

Peter Scelfo made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Florence Ridderhof and the meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4 at 7pm in the City Hall Conference Room.